

## **Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council**

Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase VIII Laws of Minnesota 2022 Accomplishment Plan

## **General Information**

Date: 07/21/2023

**Project Title:** Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley - Phase VIII

Funds Recommended: \$4,440,000

**Legislative Citation:** ML 2022, Ch. 77, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd. 2(c)

**Appropriation Language:** \$4,440,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever, in cooperation with the Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society, to acquire land in fee and restore and enhance lands within the southern Red River Valley for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8, or lands to be designated and managed as waterfowl production areas in Minnesota, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

## **Manager Information**

Manager's Name: Sabin Adams Title: MN Project Manager

**Organization:** MN Prairie Chicken Society / Pheasants Forever, Inc.

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#### **Location Information**

**County Location(s):** Mahnomen, Wilkin, Norman, Clay and Becker.

#### Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Prairie

### **Activity types:**

- Protect in Fee
- Restore

## Priority resources addressed by activity:

Prairie

## **Narrative**

#### **Abstract**

This proposal protects and restores 760 acres of land in the Minnesota prairie-chicken range, that will be transferred to the MNDNR as a WMA or to the USFWS as a WPA. All land will be open to public hunting. MN Prairie Chicken Society and Pheasants Forever will be protecting parcels that focus specifically on prairie chicken benefits, which makes this proposal unique and highly focused. All acquisitions will occur within the prairie and prairie/forest planning regions with a focus in Clay, Norman, Mahnomen and Wilkin counties which is the primary range of prairie chickens in Minnesota.

## **Design and Scope of Work**

Greater prairie chickens require large blocks of grasslands, with a minimum of 320 acres at any one site. The makeup of these grassland complexes should include numerous successional states of habitat to sustain a local population. Because of this the greater prairie chickens population in Minnesota is largely restricted to the beach ridges of the Glacial Lake Agassiz region. Greater prairie chickens are a "flagship" species in the sense that if we have greater prairie chickens on the landscape, then we also have met the habitat needs of many additional grassland-dependent wildlife species. Greater prairie chicken habitat has declined dramatically in recent years due to 1) loss of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres and 2) conversion of grasslands; (including remnant native prairie), to row crop production.

This partnership protects native and restored prairies, sedge meadows, and other types of grasslands and associated wetlands to promote the growth and stability of greater prairie chicken populations. This is a very focused proposal with the priority of protecting remnant prairies within core and corridor areas of the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan. Our proposed tracts were identified as high priority greater prairie chicken habitat with willing sellers who have an interest in preserving wildlife values. These tracts were ranked as high priority for greater prairie chicken habitat based on six criteria including: 1) distance to the nearest prairie chicken lek; 2) location in or outside of a core area from the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan (MPCP); 3) distance to the nearest public hunting land (WPA or WMA); 4) tract size; 5) current grassland type (native prairie, restored prairie, brome, or row crop;) and 6) wetland density and predicted waterfowl breeding pairs (wetlands can provide important habitat for prairie chickens over their annual life cycle). All projects acquired under this proposal will be restored and/or enhanced to be productive grassland habitat as part of the grant activity.

By protecting, restoring, and enhancing grasslands and wetlands in the right areas, this partnership delivers on many of the goals of stateside conservation plans. In fact, one ecosystem measure of the MPCP success is to have stable or increasing greater prairie chicken populations in Minnesota. The MPCP is ideally suited for greater prairie chicken management with core areas containing large contiguous blocks of grassland and smaller grassland patches scattered across the landscape called corridors that allow birds to maintain populations outside the core areas as well as move across the landscape. In addition to grassland conservation, most tracts have extensive wetlands. Restoring and maintaining these wetlands will have several benefits including water storage,

sequestering and storing carbon, water quality, diversity of flora and fauna, and reducing erosion. Providing secure habitat for greater prairie chickens also provides habitat for a host of other grassland species.

# How does the plan address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species?

The Greater Prairie-Chicken is an indicator of prairie habitat quantity and quality. As such there are a number of game, non-game, and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that benefit from this partnership's results. MN Prairie Chicken Society (PCS) and Pheasants Forever (PF) work with Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) staff to identify rare, threatened, and endangered species that occur on or near a project. SGCN for the proposal area includes 35 vertebrate animals, 59 plants, and 13 invertebrate animals. Many of the proposed tracts contain native prairie communities as mapped by the Minnesota Biological Survey. Depending on the quality, these native tracts likely have a number of T&E prairie-dependent species on them which will be protected. This proposal aims to increase greater prairie chicken numbers in Minnesota by adding to and creating a connected system of grassland habitats across the landscape. In this way, we are addressing the limiting factor to greater prairie chicken populations, while also building more protected high-quality habitats for rare, threatened, and endangered species. We work in close coordination with partners and land managers on the restoration and enhancement of all acquired tracts as well. When SGCN are located on or near project tracts, this can affect methods used in restoration in order to provide maximum benefit for those species.

# Describe how the plan uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:

This proposal is fully integrated into the MPCP. Most of the tracts listed are within core areas, have remnant native prairie on them, and are adjacent to existing WMAs/WPAs. Most tracts are within less than a half-mile of known greater prairie chicken habitat and leks. The latest geospatial data, such as that from the MN County Biological Survey, the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan, the MN Wildlife Action Plan among others will be utilized to review potential tracts. We also strive to protect habitat where we will have the best return on investment and have the greatest impact on prairie-chicken populations. Close coordination with local resource managers will further ensure that this partnership is delivering the best results for the investment.

A recent study by MN DNR researcher, Dr. Charlotte Roy, and collaborators Dr. Andrew Gregory (Bowling Green State University) and Eric Nelson (MN DNR), informs us about landscape connectivity gaps for greater prairie chickens. Using landscape genetic techniques, Dr. Roy and her colleagues observed that greater prairie chickens in the northern part of the sampled area, near Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge, are not well connected to greater prairie chickens in Clay, Otter Tail, and Wilkin counties to the south. Their findings suggest that providing quality grassland habitat in Norman and Polk counties should be a priority to improve connectivity in the planned corridor. The genetic data obtained also indicate that birds in Norman County are moving less than other areas, which could put them at risk for inbreeding in the future, particularly if habitat needs are not addressed. To begin addressing this conservation need, the researchers recommend increasing grassland quantity and improving grassland quality near areas from which greater prairie chickens can expand, to begin making connections between core areas in the planned corridor.

# Which two sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are most applicable to this project?

- H1 Protect priority land habitats
- H3 Improve connectivity and access to recreation

## Which two other plans are addressed in this program?

- Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan

## Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

#### **Forest / Prairie Transition**

Protect, enhance, and restore wild rice wetlands, shallow lakes, wetland/grassland complexes, aspen
parklands, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife

#### Prairie

 Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes

## **Outcomes**

## **Programs in forest-prairie transition region:**

• Protected, restored, and enhanced nesting and migratory habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and species of greatest conservation need ~ Strategic parcels that increase the functionality of existing habitat will be acquired and restored to functioning wetlands with diverse upland prairie to serve as habitat for pollinators, resident and migratory game and non-game species. Lands will be protected to provide accelerated wildlife habitat and public access, monitored by Minnesota DNR of United States FWS. Protected and restored acres will be measured against goals outlined in the "Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years" and "Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan".

## Programs in prairie region:

• Key core parcels are protected for fish, game and other wildlife ~ Strategic parcels that increase the functionality of existing habitat will be acquired and restored to functioning wetlands with diverse upland prairie to serve as habitat for pollinators, resident and migratory game and non-game species. Lands will be protected to provide accelerated wildlife habitat and public access, monitored by Minnesota DNR of United States FWS. Protected and restored acres will be measured against goals outlined in the "Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area Acquisition - The Next 50 Years" and "Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan".

## Does this program include leveraged funding?

Yes

### **Explain the leverage:**

This proposal will bring \$481,600 of leverage funds to increase the accomplishments of acquisition and restoration activities. This leverage will come from The Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society, Pheasants Forever, Federal funds, as well as privately raised sources.

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

This proposal supplements past investments and is aimed at accelerating the protection and restoration of strategic parcels.

## **Non-OHF Appropriations**

| Year   | Source | Amount |
|--------|--------|--------|
| Annual | -      | -      |

## How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?

All lands will be enrolled into the WMA or WPA system and will be managed in perpetuity by the MNDNR or USFWS, respectively. All acquisitions will be restored and/or enhanced to as high quality as practicable, with the knowledge that quality and comprehensive restorations utilizing native species result in lower management costs. In addition, local PF chapter members and volunteers maintain significant interest in seeing the habitat and productivity of acquired parcels are high. MPCS, PF, MNDNR and USFWS will develop an ecological restoration and management plan for each parcel. Grant and partner dollars will be used for the initial site development and restoration/enhancement work.

## **Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes**

| Year                | Source of Funds     | Step 1                 | Step 2 | Step 3 |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| Post Transfer - WPA | USFWS - Federal     | Standard long-term     | -      | -      |
|                     |                     | maintenance; fire,     |        |        |
|                     |                     | invasives control, etc |        |        |
| Post Transfer - WMA | DNR - Game and Fish | Standard long-term     | -      | -      |
|                     | Funds               | maintenance; fire,     |        |        |
|                     |                     | invasives control, etc |        |        |

# Provide an assessment of how your program celebrates cultural diversity or reaches diverse communities in Minnesota, including reaching low- and moderate-income households:

The goals of this program are specifically designed to improve wildlife habitat and public spaces for the benefit of all people regardless of race. Additionally, Pheasants Forever is undertaking an organization wide initiative to design, develop and implement a foundational plan to increase the inclusion of BIPOC communities inside and outside of our organization, and to ensure there's a sense of belonging among all people within Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever.

## **Activity Details**

#### Requirements

If funded, this program will meet all applicable criteria set forth in MS 97A.056? Yes

Will county board or other local government approval <u>be formally sought\*\*</u> prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j)?

No

Describe any measures to inform local governments of land acquisition under their jurisdiction:

At minimum, we will notify local government in writing of the intent to acquire and donate lands to the state and follow up with questions prior to the acquisition. In cases where there is interest, we will also indicate our willingness to attend or ask to attend county or township meetings to communicate our interest in the projects and seek support.

Is the land you plan to acquire (fee title) free of any other permanent protection?

No

### Describe the permanent protection and justification for additional protection:

Because we are working within priority habitat areas, it is possible that parcels could have perpetual easements on a portion of them. If a parcel has a perpetual easement and is deemed a high priority by the partners, we will follow guidance established by the Outdoor Heritage Fund to proceed, or use non-state funding to acquire the protected portion of the property.

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?

Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program? Yes

## Where does the activity take place?

- WMA
- WPA
- Refuge Lands

#### **Land Use**

Yes

Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program?

### Explain what will be planted:

This proposal may include initial development plans or restoration plans to utilize farming to prepare previously farmed sites for native plant seeding. This is a standard practice across the Midwest to prepare the seedbed for native seed planting. In these restorations, PF's policy is to use non neonicotinoid treated seed and no herbicides other than glyphosate. On a small percentage of WMAs (less than 2.5%), DNR uses farming to provide a winter food source for a variety of wildlife species in agriculture-dominated landscapes largely devoid of winter food sources. There are no immediate plans to use farming for winter food on any of the parcels in this proposal.

### Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing?

No

## Will the land be open for hunting and fishing after completion?

Yes

#### Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:

No variation from State of MN regulations for WMA acquisitions.

All WPA acquisitions will be open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season according to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, United States Code, title 16, section 668dd, et seq.

### Who will eventually own the fee title land?

State of MN

Federal

## Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:

- WMA
- WPA

## What is the anticipated number of closed acquisitions (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?

We anticipate 1-4 acquisitions with this appropriation.

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?

No

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?

No

Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?

Yes

All acquired parcels will be restored to the fullest extent possible before donation to USFWS or MN DNR.

## Will the land that you acquire (fee or easement) be restored or enhanced within this program's funding and availability?

Yes

## **Timeline**

| Activity Name                  | Estimated Completion Date |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Restorations completed         | 06/30/2027                |
| Close on tracts                | 01/01/2025                |
| Purchase agreements            | 09/01/2023                |
| Contract appraisals ordered    | 04/01/2023                |
| Re-evaluate tract priority     | 02/14/2023                |
| Purchase agreements            | 02/01/2023                |
| Contract appraisals ordered    | 09/01/2022                |
| Identify priority acquisitions | 07/01/2022                |

**Date of Final Report Submission:** 11/01/2027

**Availability of Appropriation:** Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation

- (a) Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Money appropriated to acquire land in fee may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.
- (b) Money appropriated in this section is available as follows:
- (1) money appropriated for acquiring real property is available until June 30, 2026;

- (2) money appropriated for restoring and enhancing land acquired with an appropriation in this act is available for four years after the acquisition date with a maximum end date of June 30, 2030;
- (3) money appropriated for restoring or enhancing other land is available until June 30, 2027;
- (4) notwithstanding clauses (1) to (3), money appropriated for a project that receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds is available until a date sufficient to match the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if the federal funding was confirmed and included in the original approved draft accomplishment plan; and
- (5) money appropriated for other projects is available until the end of the fiscal year in which it is appropriated.

## **Budget**

Budget reallocations up to 10% do not require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan.

#### **Totals**

| Item                  | Funding Request | Leverage  | Leverage Source    | Total       |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|
| Personnel             | \$53,300        | -         | -                  | \$53,300    |
| Contracts             | \$540,900       | -         | -                  | \$540,900   |
| Fee Acquisition w/    | \$1,756,600     | \$263,600 | PF, MPCS, Private, | \$2,020,200 |
| PILT                  |                 |           | Federal            |             |
| Fee Acquisition w/o   | \$1,767,200     | \$263,600 | PF, MPCS, Private, | \$2,030,800 |
| PILT                  |                 |           | Federal            |             |
| Easement Acquisition  | -               | -         | -                  | -           |
| Easement              | -               | -         | -                  | -           |
| Stewardship           |                 |           |                    |             |
| Travel                | \$5,700         | -         | -                  | \$5,700     |
| Professional Services | \$94,800        | -         | -                  | \$94,800    |
| Direct Support        | \$18,500        | \$19,200  | PF, MPCS, Private, | \$37,700    |
| Services              |                 |           | Federal            |             |
| DNR Land Acquisition  | \$42,000        | -         | -                  | \$42,000    |
| Costs                 |                 |           |                    |             |
| Capital Equipment     | -               | -         | -                  | -           |
| Other                 | -               | -         | -                  | -           |
| Equipment/Tools       |                 |           |                    |             |
| Supplies/Materials    | \$143,000       | -         | -                  | \$143,000   |
| DNR IDP               | \$18,000        | -         | -                  | \$18,000    |
| <b>Grand Total</b>    | \$4,440,000     | \$546,400 | -                  | \$4,986,400 |

#### Personnel

| Position             | Annual FTE | Years<br>Working | Funding<br>Request | Leverage | Leverage<br>Source | Total    |
|----------------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|
| State<br>Coordinator | 0.03       | 3.0              | \$11,200           | -        | -                  | \$11,200 |
| Field Staff          | 0.08       | 3.0              | \$24,200           | -        | -                  | \$24,200 |
| Grants Staff         | 0.06       | 3.0              | \$17,900           | -        | -                  | \$17,900 |

**Amount of Request:** \$4,440,000 **Amount of Leverage:** \$546,400

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 12.31%

**DSS + Personnel:** \$71,800

As a % of the total request: 1.62%

**Easement Stewardship: -**

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

## How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?

We have reduced accomplishments/costs proportionately across the overall program to accommodate the reduced appropriation. As a

result of the reduction, we will be able to protect fewer acres. As in past appropriations, we will focus on the most strategic, highest

priority tracts.

### Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

Leverage is expected from multiple sources including but not limited to federal sources, land value donations, contractor donations and PF. Not every source is 100% confirmed at this point. However, PF has an exemplary track record of delivery and over-achievement of match commitments that further stretch OHF funding.

#### **Personnel**

### Has funding for these positions been requested in the past?

Yes

## Please explain the overlap of past and future staffing and position levels previously received and how that is coordinated over multiple years?

In general PF staffing is existing and only partially funded by OHF and specifically this request. Billing to any appropriation would only be for time spent on direct and necessary costs incurred as outlined in an Accomplishment Plan.

#### **Contracts**

#### What is included in the contracts line?

We anticipate that all of the contract funding will be used for restoration, enhancement, and initial development of the protected acres and \$13,500.00 for adjacent protected lands. This could include but is not limited to wetland/grassland restoration, tree removal, prescribed fire, building removal, posts, signs, and other

### **Fee Acquisition**

### What is the anticipated number of fee title acquisition transactions?

We anticipate 1-4 fee title acquisition.

#### **Travel**

## Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

No

## Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging n/a

I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan:

Yes

#### **Direct Support Services**

## How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?

PF utilizes the Total Modified Direct Cost method. This methodology is annually approved by the U.S. Department of Interior's National Business Center as the basis for the organization's Indirect Cost Rate agreement. PF's allowable direct support services cost is 5.09%. In this proposal, PF has discounted its rate to 2.5% of the sum of personnel, contracts, professional services, and travel. We are donating the difference-in-kind.

## **Federal Funds**

## Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?

Yes

## Are the funds confirmed?

No

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds? 07/01/2022

## **Output Tables**

## **Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)**

| Type                                     | Wetland | Prairie | Forest | Habitat | Total Acres |
|--|---------|---------|--------|---------|-------------|
| Restore                                  | -       | 13      | ı      | ı       | 13          |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | -       | 374     | ı      | ı       | 374         |
| Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability  | -       | 373     | -      | -       | 373         |
| Protect in Easement                      | -       | ı       | ı      | ı       | -           |
| Enhance                                  | -       | ı       | ı      | ı       | -           |
| Total                                    | -       | 760     | -      | -       | 760         |

## **Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)**

| Type                                     | Wetland | Prairie     | Forest | Habitat | <b>Total Funding</b> |
|--|---------|-------------|--------|---------|----------------------|
| Restore                                  | -       | \$13,500    | ı      | -       | \$13,500             |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | -       | \$2,206,600 | ı      | -       | \$2,206,600          |
| Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability  | -       | \$2,219,900 | -      | -       | \$2,219,900          |
| Protect in Easement                      | -       | -           | 1      | -       | -                    |
| Enhance                                  | -       | -           | -      | -       | -                    |
| Total                                    | -       | \$4,440,000 | -      | -       | \$4,440,000          |

## **Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)**

| Туре                                     | Metro/Urban | Forest/Prairie | SE Forest | Prairie | N. Forest | Total Acres |
|--|-------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| Restore                                  | -           | -              | -         | 13      | -         | 13          |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | -           | 187            | 1         | 187     | -         | 374         |
| Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability  | -           | 149            | 1         | 224     | -         | 373         |
| Protect in Easement                      | -           | -              | -         | -       | -         | -           |
| Enhance                                  | -           | -              | -         | -       | -         | -           |
| Total                                    | -           | 336            | -         | 424     | -         | 760         |

## **Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)**

| Туре  | Metro/Urban | Forest/Prairie | SE Forest | Prairie     | N. Forest | Total<br>Funding |
|---|-------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| Restore                                     | -           | -              | -         | \$13,500    | -         | \$13,500         |
| Protect in Fee with State<br>PILT Liability | -           | \$1,103,300    | -         | \$1,103,300 | -         | \$2,206,600      |
| Protect in Fee w/o State<br>PILT Liability  | -           | \$887,900      | -         | \$1,332,000 | -         | \$2,219,900      |
| Protect in Easement                         | -           | -              | -         | -           | -         | -                |
| Enhance                                     | -           | -              | -         | -           | -         | -                |
| Total                                       | -           | \$1,991,200    | -         | \$2,448,800 | -         | \$4,440,000      |

## **Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)**

| Type                                     | Wetland | Prairie | Forest | Habitat |
|--|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| Restore                                  | -       | \$1,038 | -      | -       |
| Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability | -       | \$5,900 | -      | -       |
| Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability  | -       | \$5,951 | -      | -       |
| Protect in Easement                      | -       | -       | -      | -       |
| Enhance                                  | -       | -       | -      | -       |

## **Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)**

| Type  | Metro/Urban | Forest/Prairie | SE Forest | Prairie | N. Forest |
|---|-------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Restore                                     | -           | •              | ı         | \$1,038 | -         |
| Protect in Fee with State<br>PILT Liability | -           | \$5,900        | -         | \$5,900 | -         |

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| Protect in Fee w/o State<br>PILT Liability | - | \$5,959 | - | \$5,946 | - |
|--|---|---------|---|---------|---|
| Protect in Easement                        | - | -       | - | -       | - |
| Enhance                                    | - | -       | - | -       | - |

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

## **Parcels**

For restoration and enhancement programs ONLY: Managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final parcel list.

#### **Parcel Information**

### Sign-up Criteria?

No

### Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

Parcels are identified and strategically prioritized using the best science and decision support tools (e.g. Prairie Conservation Plan Maps) available. Preference is given to project sites that both help deliver the goals of other recognized conservation initiatives and that build habitat in critical prairie chicken areas. Data layers (i.e. MN Biological Survey, Natural Heritage Database, MN Wildlife Action Plan, Wellhead Protection Areas, Pheasant Action Plan, existing protected land, etc.) are used to help justify projects and focus areas as well as to inform decisions on top priorities for protection and restoration efforts.

#### **Protect Parcels**

| Name                           | County   | TRDS     | Acres | Est Cost    | Existing<br>Protection |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|-------|-------------|------------------------|
| Erickson WPA Addn              | Becker   | 13943234 | 53    | \$146,000   | No                     |
| Audobon WPA Addn               | Becker   | 13942222 | 198   | \$547,000   | No                     |
| Spring Creek WMA addition      | Becker   | 14242212 | 320   | \$640,000   | No                     |
| Clay County WMA addition       | Clay     | 13845222 | 160   | \$512,000   | No                     |
| Gardener WPA Addn              | Clay     | 13744235 | 80    | \$205,000   | Yes                    |
| Barnesville WMA Addition       | Clay     | 13745224 | 40    | \$80,000    | No                     |
| New WMA                        | Clay     | 14145230 | 622   | \$2,500,000 | No                     |
| Ulen WMA Addition              | Clay     | 14245225 | 320   | \$640,000   | No                     |
| Bredeson Lake WPA Addn         | Clay     | 13944211 | 120   | \$273,000   | No                     |
| Haggman WPA Addn               | Mahnomen | 14441232 | 939   | \$3,286,500 | Yes                    |
| Wambach WMA Addn               | Mahnomen | 14541207 | 80    | \$280,000   | No                     |
| Coburn WMA addition            | Mahnomen | 14342231 | 160   | \$416,000   | No                     |
| Santwire WMA Addition          | Mahnomen | 14441230 | 930   | \$3,200,000 | No                     |
| Vanose WMA addition            | Mahnomen | 14641225 | 309   | \$575,000   | No                     |
| Rush WMA                       | Mahnomen | 14541221 | 185   | \$400,000   | No                     |
| Haggman WPA Addn               | Mahnomen | 14341206 | 239   | \$432,000   | No                     |
| Dalby WMA addition             | Norman   | 14345210 | 160   | \$320,000   | No                     |
| Rockwell WMA addition          | Norman   | 14345205 | 82    | \$164,000   | No                     |
| Twin Valley WMA                | Norman   | 14344229 | 40    | \$80,000    | No                     |
| Agassiz Olson WMA addition     | Norman   | 14645209 | 54    | \$81,000    | No                     |
| Rockwell WMA addition          | Norman   | 14345205 | 100   | \$150,000   | No                     |
| Neal WMA addition              | Norman   | 14344219 | 20    | \$80,000    | No                     |
| Neal WMA addition              | Norman   | 14344218 | 320   | \$960,000   | No                     |
| Rockwell WMA addition          | Norman   | 14445234 | 160   | \$512,000   | No                     |
| Vagsness WMA addition, Tract 5 | Norman   | 14344202 | 40    | \$40,000    | No                     |
| Vagsness WMA addition, Tract 8 | Norman   | 14344202 | 60    | \$100,000   | No                     |
| Agassiz Olson WMA addition     | Norman   | 14645233 | 120   | \$240,000   | No                     |
| Rothsay WMA addition           | Wilkin   | 13546214 | 320   | \$1,024,000 | No                     |
| Rothsay WMA addition           | Wilkin   | 13546210 | 320   | \$960,000   | No                     |
| Rothsay WMA addition           | Wilkin   | 13545221 | 40    | \$128,000   | No                     |
| Rothsay WMA addition           | Wilkin   | 13545207 | 160   | \$512,000   | No                     |

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| Rogelstad-Swanson WMA Addn | Wilkin | 13546210 | 305 | \$1,520,000 | No |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|-----|-------------|----|
| Rothsay WMA addition       | Wilkin | 13545217 | 480 | \$1,536,000 | No |

## **Protect Parcels with Buildings**

| Name                           | County | TRDS     | Acres | Est Cost  | Existing Protection | Buildings | Value of<br>Buildings |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|-------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Tub Lake WPA                   | Becker | 13843220 | 322   | \$889,000 | Yes                 | 4         | \$50,000              |
| Three Jetvig Lakes WPA<br>Addn | Clay   | 13944233 | 233   | \$531,000 | Yes                 | 4         | \$10,000              |

